Appl. No.: 10/405,680

Response. Dated: 12-30-04

Reply to Office Action of: 9-21-04

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable

reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 remain in this application. Claims 7-10 have been canceled.

Applicant believes that no new matter is added to the application as part of this

response.

1. Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 has been rewritten to recite silver or copper metal in the last step, as

suggested by the Examiner.

Claim 2 has been rewritten to recite that the article contains a central layer

containing essentially no silver or copper halide crystals after being exposed to the

reducing atmosphere.

Claims 7-10 have been canceled.

2. Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 1 because it did not recite both silver and

copper metal. Claim 1 has been rewritten to recite silver or copper metal in the last

step, as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant therefore requests that the Examiner

withdraw the objection to claim 1.

3. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph,

as being indefinite. Claim 2 has been rewritten to recite that the article contains a

central layer containing essentially no silver or copper halide crystals after being

exposed to the reducing atmosphere. Applicant believes that claim 2 as rewritten is

definite, and requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 2.

4. Allowable Subject Matter

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Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that the subject matter of claims 1-6 is patentable over the prior art of record.

5. Conclusion

Applicant have previously filed a one month extension of time to make this Response timely: See "Request for Extension on Time to Respond to Official Action" dated 1/14/2005. Applicant again respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for this supplemental response.

Please direct any questions or comments to Timothy M. Schaeberle at 607/974-3164.

Date

Respectfully submitted,

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